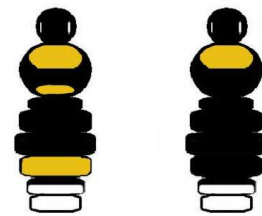




Help Us Conserve: *Bombus occidentalis* The Western Bumble Bee

Help us find and conserve this once widespread western bumble bee. Monitor flowering plants in your area for the western bumble bee and record where and when you see the bee. Then tell us.

Bombus occidentalis color variants (female)



Brief Description (female):

Head: Black with possibly some dark yellow hairs on face

Thorax: Golden yellow hair on front half; black hair between and behind the wing bases; in some populations posterior portion of thorax also with golden yellow hairs (but not between the wing bases or underside of thorax)

Abdomen: Variable color, but generally black hair on the first four abdominal segments; third and/or fourth segments sometimes golden yellow; fifth and sixth segments with white hair appear as distinctive white tail (see photo)

Males similar to female; may vary, but with distinctive white tail

Contact:

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Historic Range: AZ and NM to YT (Canada) and AK, Pacific Coast (N of San Francisco) to SD and western NE

